

ST



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/514,053	02/25/2000	Scott C. Harris	SCH/TRAVEL	7148

7590

07/18/2002

Scott C Harris
P O Box 927649
San Diego, CA 92192

EXAMINER

MORGAN, ROBERT W

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3626

DATE MAILED: 07/18/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/514,053

Applicant(s)

HARRIS, SCOTT C.

Examiner

Robert W. Morgan

Art Unit

3626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☒ The proposed drawing correction filed on 25 February 2000 is: a) ☐ approved b) ☒ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Art Unit: 3626

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

The drawings are objected to because: Fig. 1, some circles have no number reference and the words are illegible. Fig. 3, the references to box 320, the words are illegible. Fig. 4, the references to box 416, the words are illegible. Fig. 5, there is an empty box with no reference to a number or words. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,948,040 to DeLorme et al. in view of Official Notice.

DeLorme et al. teaches a Travel Reservation Information Planning System or TRIPS where users (100, Fig. 1A) using a desktop computer (105, Fig. 1A) with at least one computer communication connection or modem link (107, Fig. 1A) and one or more private or public computer networks such as the Internet including interactive communication with one or more third-party providers or diverse travel information, reservation, accommodation, transportation, ticketing and/or other travel-related goods/service (see: column 13, lines 48-58). The TRIPS

Art Unit: 3626

software allows users to construct travel plans using electronic maps presented on the computer's display and the user selects a travel origin, travel destination, and desired waypoints. The software also calculates, delineates and displays a travel route between the travel origin and the travel destination via the selected waypoints (see: column 8, lines 33-39). TRIPS input terminology or technology is not restricted to the illustration in (Fig. 1C) but also includes other input means such as voice recognition, natural language text queries, keystroke or mouse input, "virtual reality" input/output devices, map/calendar/subject-matter/transactional graphic user interface, relational data queries an/or other state-of-the-art input means known or readily implemented in the digital computer software field (see: column 23, lines 64 to column 24, lines 13).

DeLorme et al. fails to teach a cursor moving element and actuator that is actuated to select current positions of said cursor moving element as well as actuating the cursor over the start and ending points of desired travel.

It is well known in the computer field that graphical user interface such as a cursor, which is a special on-screen indicator used with applications and operating systems such as a mouse or other on-screen icons that move with movements of the mouse and actuators, which are disk drive mechanism for moving the read/write heads to location of the desired track on a disk are old and well established. Since DeLorme et al. teaches TRIPS software using electronic maps that calculates, delineates and displays a travel route between the travel origin and the travel destination via the selected waypoints (see: column 8, lines 33-39), one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have found it obvious to include a graphic user interface such as a cursor actuated over the start and ending places of a travel route within the

Art Unit: 3626

Travel Reservation Information Planning System as taught by DeLorme et al. with motivation of decreasing the amount of keystroke entries by the user, thereby providing a more efficiently and effectively way of selecting a desired travel route.

As per claim 2, DeLorme et al. fails to teach a cursor moving element that changes the size of the starting and ending area of the selected travel route.

It is well known in the computer field that graphical user interface such as a cursor, which is a special on-screen indicator used with applications and operating systems such as a mouse or other on-screen icons that move with movements of the mouse and actuators, which are disk drive mechanism for moving the read/write heads to location of the desired track on a disk are old and well established. Since DeLorme et al. teaches the use of electronic maps delineated to display a travel route between the travel origin and the travel destination via the selected waypoints (see: column 8, lines 33-39). DeLorme et al. further teaches a button used to pan/zoom in on the selected travel route by the user (see: Fig. 5D). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a cursor moving element that changes the size of the starting and ending area of the selected travel route within the Travel Reservation Information Planning System as taught by DeLorme et al. with motivation of decreasing the amount of keystroke entries by the user, thereby providing a more efficiently and effectively way of selecting a desired travel route.

As per claim 3, DeLorme et al. teaches TRIPS software that allows the users to construct travel plans using electronic maps presented on the computer's display and selects a travel origin, travel destination, and desired waypoints. The software also calculates, delineates and

Art Unit: 3626

displays a travel route between the travel origin and the travel destination via the selected waypoints (see: column 8, lines 33-39).

As per claim 4, DeLorme et al. fails to explicitly teach displaying a calendar near the starting and ending area and allowing at least one selection of a date from the calendar.

However, DeLorme et al. teaches that the TRIPS invention works with other GUI's in addition to or as an alternative to the dynamic map display at (152, Fig. 1C). The temporal or WHEN? main input menu (161, Fig. 1C) can be implemented or complemented by a dynamic calendar, clock and/or timetable GUI (see: column 25, lines 36-41 and column 8, lines 14-17). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include displaying a calendar near the starting and ending area and allowing at least one selection of a date from the calendar within the Travel Reservation Information Planning System as taught by DeLorme et al. with motivation of providing a fast and readily available way to verify dates to making travel plans.

As per claim 5, DeLorme et al. teaches using TRIPS software that allows a users to construct travel plans using electronic maps presented on the computer's display and select a travel origin, travel destination, and desired waypoints which are places anywhere along the way. The software also calculates, delineates and displays a travel route between the travel origin and the travel destination via the selected waypoints (see: column 8, lines 33-39 and column 1, lines 56-59).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Art Unit: 3626

In related art (6,008,649) Kadaba et al. discloses a method and apparatus from a list of entries in a vehicle navigation system.

In related art (6,353,794) Davis et al. teaches a system, method and computer program for managing integrated real-time information about air flight trips.

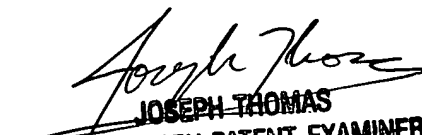
In related art (6,307,572) DeMarcken et al. teaches an airline travel planning system including a server computer executing a server processing using graphical user interface.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert W. Morgan whose telephone number is 703-605-4441. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Mon - Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Thomas can be reached on 703-305-9588. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-7687 for regular communications and 703-305-7687 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1113.

RWA
rwm
July 14, 2002


JOSEPH THOMAS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600